

Aspin assumptions in Bottom-Up Review

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Planning is to be for 2 simultaneous regional scenarios

Preparing for 2 particular scenarios prepares DoD well enough for what actually will arise

Clean slate is best for planning

Conflict duration is 90 days

Wars start with aggression by an opponent

In/out expeditions for US forces are much more likely than extended deployments for counterinsurgency/nationbuilding

Readiness is to match that of the Cold War

Deployment distances will be thousands of miles for both forward-deployed forces and their augmentees

US is to maintain order in the world (freedom of the seas, spike local aggression, buttress allies, etc.)

Naval forces are to be favored (because of the unpredictability of conflict locales)

Access to combat theaters is unimpeded

Enemies are nation-states

Phase IV (post-combat) of deployments will feature reduced forces

The Executive Branch is the proper place to originate policy for force design/structure

Top-down thinking will work best when changing course (from the Cold War)